MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Only Shri Hazarika will speak.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Sir, I am raising a very important issue.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra) : Sir, Himachal is in anguish...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please wait for your turn.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : The Home Ministry has issued a directive to the Government of Assam that they should launch prosecution, file FIR and arrest Paresh Baruah, the so-called commander-in-chief of ULFA.

For the heinous, gruesome and cold blooded murder of Sanjay Ghosh, a social worker and a NGO activist. This is a very extraordinary situation. Law and order is the primary and paramount responsibility of the State, as per the Constitution. It does not happen usually that the Central Government has to issue a directive to the State Government to take action against an offender of a particular crime. Therefore, certain questions have arisen out of this action taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Firstly, why is it that the Ministry of Home Affairs considered it necessary to direct the State Government taken action against an offender? Has the Central Government lost confidence in the ability, competence and willingness of the AGP Government in Assam? Are they of the view that left to the State Government, no action is going to be taken against the offender and therefore, directive has been issued. If this is the view, I agree with the Ministry of Home entirely because we have a Government in Assam which, today, is non-functional and it is entirely insensitive and oblivious of the sufferings of the people there.

Then we have Article 355 of the Constitution which enjoins on the Government...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : ...the duty to protect the States against external aggression and internal disturbances...*(Interruptions)* This directive has been issued...*(Interruptions)* Under this article, would the Government do the same in other cases like the recent killing of a Brigadier and a captains a Guwahati.

AN HON. MEMBER : This is a very important issue.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : Is this Government going to issue directive to Maharashtra Government to take action against Mr. X sitting in Dubai for murder of Gulshan Kumar committed in Mumbai so that this kind of a thing does not happen? This is an extraordinary situation that Central Government deemed it proper to directing a democratically, elected State Government to take action against an offender ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, I have to draw only one conclusion from this...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : ...that the Central Government has lost confidence in the AGP Government there. Therefore, they do not believe that AGP Government will take stern action against the offender and that is why, I welcome the directive. But, at the same time,...*(Interruptions)* the Government must issue a warning to the AGP Government in the State to the effect that unless they take effective...*(Interruptions)* steps to bring about a significant improvement in the law and order situation...*(Interruptions)* Centre will have to consider seriously an alternative action including invocation of Article 356 of the Constitution ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the verdict given by Patna High Court yesterday...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow everybody. Wait.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Take your seat. Why can you not wait? Please wait. Sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Patna High Court stated in a decision that the law and order situation in Bihar has worsened ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am sorry. I have already allowed you. Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no other alternative than to enforce Article 356 of the Constitution in Bihar. It has been announced by Patna High Court yesterday...*(Interruptions)* This verdict was given by Patna High Court, only after finding that the funds allocated for the development of people at district level have been

pocketed by the officers in connivance with the politicians...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 2 p.m.

12.59 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the Chair*)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we want to raise the matter in regard to Bihar...*(Interruptions)* We are making efforts for that matter for the last three years.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already moved to the next item, that is, Matters under Rule 377.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The proceedings of the House will not continue like this. You did not utilize properly the time given to you earlier.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The proceedings of the House cannot continue like this. Now you try to raise this matter next day.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The speech of Sonkerji will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

14.08 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

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* Not Recorded

14.08 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sukh Ram and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. CHAIRMAN : First you go to your respective seats. Whether it is graceful for you to come to the well.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : First you take your resepctive seats and then you submit your point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : I am raising a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is raising a point of order.

(Interruptions)

14.09 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

14.09 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sukh Ram and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I would like to raise a point which is neither in favour nor against any party. In the whole country what...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You let him speak.

[English]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra) : No, Sir, we will not allow this. We are not on 356 at this moment. Himachal Pradesh is suffering...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You listen to the point of order, please. He wants to raise it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What can you say without hearing the point of order?

AN HON. MEMBER : It is zero hour....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not zero hour.

[English]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Sir, we are raising a matter of urgent public importance.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the Zero Hour is over.